

GLOBAL NETWORKING
SURVIVALPHRASES.COM
LANGUAGE LESSONS
PACKET



SPAIN

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS PACKET!
RETURN TO YOUR TEACHER WHEN
FINISHED WITH LESSONS!



Lesson 1: Thank You!

Gracias.

LESSON NOTES

The people of Spain are extremely hospitable, and there will likely be situations in which you will want to express your gratitude for something done for you. So in our first lesson, we'll look at phrases for expressing appreciation. In Spanish there is a universal phrase for expressing ones thanks - "Gracias." "Gracias" can be used in any situation without fear of being inappropriate. If you want to emphasize the degree of thankfulness, you can precede "gracias" with "muchas," to form the phrase "muchas gracias," meaning, as you could expect, "Thank you very much" or "Thanks a lot." Notice that "Gracias" is acceptable both as a formal and informal expression.

Since "Gracias" is used so extensively on a daily basis, sometimes it may sound like an automatic response. In those situations in which you want to make sure that the person you are thanking feels that you are not mechanically saying "Gracias," it is advisable to use a variation, just to show that you are truly thankful. You can, for example, apply a conjugated form of the verb "dar" which means "to give" in the following manner. "Te doy las gracias" which literally means "To you (I) give thanks" and should be translated as "I give you thank". Notice that "gracias" is a noun here.

Another variation for expressing thanks is using the verb "agradecer." Again, if you use an expression other than "Gracias," you convey to the person you are talking with the feeling that you are truly thankful. A way in which you can use "agradecer" is as follows:

"Te lo agradezco" which literally means "To you it (I) thank," and should be translated as "I thank you for it." Notice that, unlike English, in which you must always explicitly say the subject of the sentence, you don't need to do this in Spanish, as the conjugated form of the verb implies the subject. In this case "agradezco" implies the first person, "I" ("yo" in Spanish).

PHRASES

Spanish	English
Muchas gracias.	Thank you very much, thanks a lot
Te lo agradezco.	I thank you for it.
Se lo agradezco.	I thank you for it. (polite)

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English
Gracias.	Thank You.
Agradecer (verb)	To thank

QUICK TIP

On your trip, there will be a multitude of situations in which you will be likely to use "Gracias," or "Muchas gracias" (depending on how grateful you are). In no instance will you have to worry whether you have previously met your speaker or not, about the difference of ages, or how respectful you must be. Some situations in which you can use these phrases are as follows:

- when the taxi driver carries your luggage
- when the receptionist welcomes you to the hotel
- when the waiter brings your food or drinks
- when an old friend says how well you look
- when a policeman directs you to a place you are looking for
- when someone you've just met says your Spanish sounds really good
- when an elder person gives you a map of the city you are visiting
- when a boy takes a picture of you with your camera

QUICK TIP 2

If you feel you must be polite to the person you are talking to (an elder person, someone you've just met), you can accomplish this by through verb conjugation and using the polite form for "usted". When you talk to someone, you can address the person as him/her using the "tú" form, equivalent to "you," or the polite form "usted," close to "thou".

Rewriting in the previously introduced expressions in the polite form:

"Te doy las gracias" (form "tú") turns into "Le doy las gracias" (form "usted")

"Te lo agradezco" (form "tú") turns into "Se lo agradezco" (form "usted")

Notice that the rule indicates that "Te lo agradezco" should become "Le lo agradezco," but an exception to avoid coming across as harsh, ("Le lo") becomes it "Se lo agradezco".



Lesson 2: You're Welcome!

De nada.

LESSON NOTES

In the same way as "Gracias" can be used as an almost universal way to say thank you, "De nada" can be used in the same way to express "You're welcome." You don't have to worry about who you are talking to, the situation, age, or position of the person you are talking with; "De nada" will always be the right response to "Gracias".

Unlike other countries (e.g. eastern countries) where social positions are really important when speaking with other people, Spain is an open and relaxed society, and any little mistake related to respectfulness (e.g. use of casual form "tú" instead of respectful form "usted") won't be overscrutinized.

As you already know, the literal meaning of "De nada" is "For nothing", which transmits the idea that there is no reason to be thanked. There are many other expressions for saying "You're welcome," in Spanish and they too are based in this idea. Let's take a look at some of them, and their literal meaning:

- "No hay de qué." - Nothing to thank for
- "No tiene importancia." - It's not important (what I did for you)
- "Encantado." - I'm pleased. (to have done what you are thanking me for)
- "Un placer" - A pleasure (similar to "Encantado")

PHRASES

Spanish	English
De nada.	You're welcome. (literally: For nothing)
No hay de qué.	You're welcome. (literally: For nothing)
No tiene importancia.	You're welcome. (literally:
Encantado	Pleased
Un placer	A pleasure, My pleasure

QUICK TIP

Perhaps you are wondering if "De nada" is really used so extensively? Well, the answer is yes; it really is! Let's review some situations when you will use "De nada" during your trip to Spain:

- When tip the clerk in the hotel and he says "Gracias"
- When a child thanks you for having kicked his ball back to him
- When you help an elderly person, and she says "Muchas gracias"
- When the customs officer give you back your passport and say "Gracias"

If you feel you have to say "You're welcome" in any of these situations, it will be absolutely alright to say "De nada". In these situations it will be correct too to say "No hay de qué", since they both are equivalent.



Lesson 3: This Please

Por favor.

LESSON NOTES

In Spanish "Please." is "Por favor." "Por favor" can be used in any situation without fear of being inappropriate, as there are no other expressions for formal or informal situations. "Por favor" can be situated at the beginning or the end of the phrase, and it can be used either in both affirmative or interrogative phrases.

In regards to position of the phrase within the sentence, the following two examples illustrate the flexibility of this phrase :

Ending the sentence with "Por favor,"

"Dame eso, por favor." - "Give me that, please."

Beginning the sentence with "Por favor,"

"Por favor, ¿me puedes dar esto?" - "Please, can you give me this?"

Notice that in spanish, in addition to the closing question mark (?), there is also an opening question mark (¿). This is placed at the beginning of the interrogative part of the phrase.

A variation for saying "Please" is using the verb "rogar". "Rogar" means to beg, and as in English, is used when you want to convey that you really need or want what you are asking for. Obviously this is not a common way of saying "Please," and you'll hear occasionally (usually in situations with a bit of drama, in something like a drama film). The following are some examples of the way in which you can use "rogar":

"Te lo ruego" literally means "To you it (I) beg" and should be translated as "I beg it of you." Remember that the subject can be inferred from the conjugated form of a Spanish verb. In this case "ruego" implies "I" ("yo" in Spanish).

A useful phrase for those of you who want to hold on to someone with other intentions is "Te ruego que no te vayas" which means "I beg you not to leave".

PHRASES

Spanish
Por favor.

English
Please.

Spanish

Te lo ruego.
Dame eso.
¿Me puedes dar esto?
Ven conmigo.

English

I beg you.
Give me that.
Can you give me this?
Come with me.

VOCABULARY**Spanish**

rogar
anda
porfa

English

to beg
please (casual used by younger generations)
please (casual used by younger generations)

QUICK TIP

Apart from the obvious situations in which you would use "please" for something (when asking for something in a store, when choosing a cake in a bakery), you can also use the phrase "Por favor" as is in the following situations and your intentions will be clear:

- when you are in a bar or restaurant and want the waiter to attend to you
- when you find an deserted desk in the reception of your hotel and want someone to help you
- when you stop someone in the street for directions and point to your destination hoping for directions

QUICK TIP 2

There are two very informal (which doesn't mean disrespectful) and commonly used expressions, that you can hear in your trip. They are more young people slang than common language, but they are used when talking to someone you are very confident with. For example, by members of the family, workmates, classmates...

These following expressions are equivalent to "Por favor": "Anda" and "Porfa". "Anda" literally means "(You) walk" (absolutely non-sense!) and "porfa", as you can guess, is a short form for "Por favor". See a couple of examples:

"Anda, ven conmigo." means "Please, come with me."

"Ayúdame a hacer este informe, porfa." means "Help me to do this report, please"



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 4: Basic Greetings

Hola!

LESSON NOTES

"Hola" is the universal greeting in Spanish. You don't have to worry too much about who you are talking to, nor the time of the day. It's a kind and standard greeting. You can additionally ask your partner how he or she is by asking "¿Cómo estás?", which means "How are you?". So, a common way in which you could greet people you meet on your trip might be "Hola, ¿cómo estás?". If you feel that it would be appropriate to be more informal you could say, "Hola, ¿cómo te va?", which could be translated as "Hello, how are you doing?"

Depending on the time of the day, the greeting will change:

- From the time you wake up until lunch: "Buenos días", which literally means "Good days", though we translate it as "Good morning". In Spanish "morning" is "mañana."
- From lunch time until the sun sets: "Buenas tardes", which means "Good afternoon."
- From the time it gets dark until you go to bed: "Buenas noches", which means "Good evening."

You can say, "Buenas noches" when you go to bed too, but in this case you will usually say "Buenas noches. Hasta mañana", which means "Good night. See you tomorrow".

An interesting note: "morning" in Spanish is "mañana"; "tomorrow" in Spanish is "mañana". Same word, but different meanings. A funny expression: if you are going to see someone tomorrow in the morning, you can say in Spanish, "Nos vemos mañana por la mañana".

PHRASES

Spanish

¿Cómo estás?

¿Cómo te va?

Hola

Buenos días.

Buenas tardes.

Buenas noches.

Buenas noches. Hasta mañana.

mañana

Nos vemos mañana por la mañana.

English

How are you?

How are you doing?

Hello

Good morning.

Good afternoon.

Good evening.

Good night. See you tomorrow.

tomorrow

See you tomorrow morning.

Again, there may be many different versions, but this one gives you a common one you can use in your trip to Spain. Notice in this case that we are assuming that A is a woman by "encantada", which is the feminine version for "pleased".

PHRASES

Spanish	English
Me llamo David	My name is David
¿Cómo te llamas?	What's your name? (casual "tú" version)
Yo soy Pedro	I am Peter
Encantado de conocerle	Pleased to meet you (formal masculine version)
El gusto es mío	My pleasure
¿Cómo está?	How are you? (formal)
¿Cómo te va?	How are you doing? (casual "tú" version)
Bien, gracias	Fine, thank you
David, te presento a Pedro	David, I'm introducing Peter to you (casual "tú" version)
David, éste es Pedro	David, this is Peter

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English
Encantada	Pleased (feminine)

QUICK TIP

A variation for these first-encounters phrases is when someone is introducing you and another person. Let's see both versions of previous conversations for this situation:

C: A, me gustaría presentarle a B (A, I would like to introduce B to you)

A: Por supuesto (Of course)

C: B, éste es A (B, this is A)

B: Encantado de conocerle (Pleased to meet you)

A: El gusto es mío (My pleasure)

Now, let's see the casual version:

C: A, te voy a presentar a B (A, I'm going to introduce B to you)

A: ¡Claro! (Sure!)

C: B, te presento a A (B, I introduce you A)



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 52: Self Introduction

Me llamo David

LESSON NOTES

Whatever the reason for travelling to Spain, you won't probably leave Spain without meeting people (the more the better!), so it's a must to learn how to introduce yourself and to respond to people introducing themselves. Maybe the best way to remember how to do this is by reviewing a conversation. There are two levels of politeness, so I'll give you two conversations as examples. Let's look over the more polite version first:

A: Creo que no nos han presentado (I think we haven't been introduced to each other)

B: No, creo que no (No, I don't think so)

A: Me llamo A; encantado de conocerle (My name is A; pleased to meet you)

B: Yo soy B; encantado (I am B; enchante.)

A: ¿Cómo está? (How are you?)

B: Bien, gracias, ¿y usted? (Fine, thank you, and you?)

A: Bien (I'm fine)

Well, there will be lots of variations depending on the concrete situation, but these are the basic expressions in a formal situation. Notice that by using "encantado" (which is the masculine version for "pleased") we are assuming that A and B are men. Notice too that this is a formal conversation because we are using the respectful forms "usted" as in "conocerle" and "está".

Let's look over the more casual version now:

A: Hola, me llamo A. ¿Cómo te llamas? (Hello, my name is A. What's your name?)

B: Me llamo B (My name is B)

A: Encantada (Pleased.)

B: ¿Cómo te va? (How are you doing?)

A: Bien, ¿y a ti? (Fine, what about you?)

B: Bien también (Fine too)

- Waiter: No pasa nada. (Literally: Nothing happens)

PHRASES

Spanish	English
Lo siento.	I'm sorry.
Perdón.	Pardon.
Perdona.	Pardon. (casual)
Perdóname.	Forgive me.
No importa.	It's nothing.
No pasa nada.	It's nothing. (Casual)

QUICK TIP

You can use "Perdón" too when you need somebody's attention, but you feel you are disturbing them. For example, you need to ask for directions to reach that museum you want to visit, and you ask somebody who is reading his newspaper. In this situation, I would start with "Perdón", and then, when he looks at me I would ask how to get to my destination. For casual situations, for example when you ask a young person or to someone you have already met, you can use the casual version "Perdona". So, I would say to a teenager "Perdona, ¿cómo se va al museo del Prado?", which means "Pardon, how can I get to El Prado Museum?".

In this sort of situations, "Lo siento" is not used, since it transmits a feeling of sorrow which is not adequate for this situation.



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 10: Apologies(I'm Sorry)

Lo siento.

LESSON NOTES

As covered in the lesson, there are different versions for saying sorry, but all of them carry different nuances, so to make things easier, let's review some situations in which "I'm sorry" can be used and the expected response:

In all of the cases below, I will be the offender

1. I step on someone

- Me: Perdón.

- Other party: No importa. (or no response at all!)

"Perdón" is the standard "I'm sorry" for this sort of situations.

2. I forgot my wife's birthday (!), and she's a bit angry with me.

- Me: Lo siento. Perdóname. (which literally means: I'm sorry. Forgive me)

- My wife: Vale, te perdono. (OK, I forgive you)

I would say "Lo siento" to convey my sorrow, and "Perdóname" to ask for my wife's forgiveness.

3. Someone's relative has died

- Me: Lo siento.

- Other party: Gracias.

I say "Lo siento" to convey my sorrow, and the other party thanks my kindness.

4. Nobody in my company can help my customer.

- Me: Lo siento, no podemos atenderle ahora. (I'm sorry, we can't assist you now.)

- My customer: What!

5. When paying in a café, I drop the money.

- I: Perdona.

Spanish

Él entiende.

English

Literally: He understands.

QUICK TIP

You can use this expression to get out of situations in which you would prefer not to talk. For example, if someone approaches you and you are not interested in talking, even if they're speaking English, say "No entiendo." Then walk away quickly.

QUICK TIP 2

Another way to express "I don't understand." is with the expression "No comprendo."



Lesson 7: I Don't Understand

No te entiendo. I don't understand you.

LESSON NOTES

"I don't understand" is going to be a very useful phrase because most of the time, maybe even almost all of the time, you won't understand. While Spanish has similarities to English, when spoken at natural native speed the language sounds very different from English and in the beginning it will be very difficult to get your ear used to it. Until then, practice the phrase No te entiendo. (I don't understand.) In today's lesson we will learn several Spanish expressions for "I don't understand," depending on what or who we don't understand, how many persons, and even the level of politeness. They all just differ in the pronoun used. Let's review all these versions in the following below:

- No te entiendo. / I don't understand you. (singular, casual)
- No le entiendo. / I don't understand you. (singular, respectful)
- No os entiendo. / I don't understand you. (plural, casual)
- No les entiendo. / I don't understand you. (plural, respectful)
- No la entiendo. / I don't understand her. (3rd person singular informal)
- No lo entiendo. / I don't understand it. (3rd person singular informal)
- No los entiendo. / I don't understand them. (masculine)
- No las entiendo. / I don't understand them. (feminine)

If you want to keep things simple, do not worry about the conjugated forms of these verbs and the appropriate pronouns, and use this universal version, "No entiendo." It will not sound very elaborate, but it's perfectly understandable.

PHRASES

Spanish	English
No te entiendo.	I don't understand you. (singular, casual)
No les entiendo.	I don't understand you. (plural, respectful)
No la entiendo.	I don't understand her.
No entiendo.	I don't understand

travel to Galicia, I can assure that you will constantly hear this phrase when people are parting ways. My advice to you is use "Chao," in Galicia. "Chao" is known in other parts of Spain and used mainly in youths as slang, so if you meet some young people, they may use it when you part ways. (If you use, I can't assure that you won't be mistaken as an Italian!)

The second expression is used in the Basque Country as a parting expression. The phrase is "Abur," which, of course, means "Goodbye." Again, please allow me to offer the same advice, use it if you travel to the Basque Country, and the young people you are conversing with in other parts of Spain use it. (Though, again, they may not know of it.)

QUICK TIP 2

When saying "Goodbye" and "Hello" in Spain, we kiss someone on the cheek. We give two kisses, one on each cheek. Rules are not very defined (for example, nowadays it is more frequent to see men giving two kisses, in situations when they didn't do it before), but I'll give you some guidelines. If you are a man, you give two kisses when meeting or parting in the following situations:

- 1.- children or women you are close with (family or friends)
- 2.- men very close to you (family and, less frequently, close friends)
- 3.- women in any situation (nowadays, however, in work meetings, you should first try to shake her hand, and, only if she does it, give two kisses)

If you are a woman you will always give two kisses, except if you want to maintain distance in a work meeting, then you will shake your party's hand.



Lesson 5: Goodbye

Adiós.

LESSON NOTES

In Spanish there are several parting greetings; however, there is one universal phrase that can be used for almost every situation. This universal phrase is "Adiós," equivalent to the English expression "Goodbye." Literally translated the expression means "Go with God." And was originally two words: "a" and "Dios," meaning to and God respectively. You will use this when you are not going to see the person you are saying goodbye again (and even when you don't want to see him or her again!). It transmits the idea of a definitive separation. On the other hand, the phrase for expressing that you will meet again, roughly equivalent to the English expression "I'll see you later," is "Hasta luego".

Even if you know you are not going to see the person again, it always sounds nicer to say "Hasta luego," rather than "Adiós". Below are several situations where you can use the expression it:

- when leaving a store
- when leaving the hotel but plan to return
- when getting out of a taxi
- when leaving a restaurant

PHRASES

Spanish	English
Adiós.	Goodbye.
Hasta luego.	See you later.
Chao. (Galician)	Goodbye.
Abur. (Basque)	Goodbye.

QUICK TIP

If you recall, in Spain there are other co-official Spanish languages. In the case you are planning to visit these regions, the following expressions could prove valuable. The following two parting greetings are from the other languages in Spain, and they are known and sometimes used throughout Spain. In Galician, Goodbye is "Chao." This expression sounds really similar to the Italian expression "Ciao." I can't really say whether one is derived from the other one, but if you

Spanish

Bon día (catalan).

English

Good morning.

QUICK TIP

Do you remember in our introductory podcast we talked about Spain being a multicultural country? Well, now it's time to say that multicultural also means... multilingual. What? A language other than Spanish in Spain? Yes! In fact, four other co-official languages exist in different regions in Spain:

- Galician ("gallego" in Spanish, "galego" in Galician) in Galicia
- Basque ("vasco" in Spanish, "euskera" in Basque) in Basque Country
- Catalan ("catalán" in Spanish, "català" in Catalan) in Catalonia
- Valencian ("valenciano" in Spanish, "valencià" in Valencian) in Valencia

All Spanish languages are derived from latin, except Basque which is a pre-roman language. Think about it! A language that has been maintained for more than 2000 years.

Co-official means that in these four regions these languages can be used, in addition to Spanish, which is the official language throughout Spain, so, don't worry, with Spanish Survival Phrases you will be able to communicate all over Spain.

In this context, since all these languages are Spanish languages too, Spanish is usually called Castilian, since this was the language of Castile ("Castilla" in Spanish - Castilian), the main region which Spain was built on.

So, if you travel to Galicia (Santiago de Compostela), Basque Country (Bilbao), Catalonia (Barcelona) or Valencia (Valencia City), don't be surprise if you read signs or hear people talking a language which is not Spanish - Castilian. However, you can rest assured that you can communicate in Spanish. However, some words and expressions from these languages have spread out of their original regions, and can be used in Spain. One of them is "Bon día", which is "Buenos días" in Catalan, and is commonly used in Spain in informal situations.

